

WI-629  
Gordy's Industry  
Willards vicinity  
Private

c. 1838

The property known historically as Gordy's Industry is defined by a second quarter of the nineteenth-century two-story, five-bay dwelling that stands south of an old mill pond near the town of Willards. The center hall plan house was erected for Garretson Gordy (1803-1888) and his wife Margaret (1800-1874) around the time he patented Gordy's Industry, encompassing 455 acres, in 1837. The five-bay frame dwelling retains portions of its late Federal woodwork. Also interesting are the portions of old mill stone found on the property.

Garretson Gordy and his wife Margaret occupied this mill property for most of their adult lives, and in 1850 their large family included five children, and according to the census, two other Gordy relatives who were born in Delaware resided there as well. Ten years later, in 1860, Garretson Gordy was listed with real estate and personal property valued at a substantial \$16,000. Still living in the household were two of five children; carpenter Levi D. Gordy, aged 30, and his sister Maria, aged 15. The house, along with a saw mill and a grist mill, are located at this site on the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, published in 1877. In 1881, probably sensing the end of his life, Garretson Gordy conveyed title of the house and mill property to his son Levi, "in consideration of a home on the said place and in the old residence during my lifetime, plus \$1,000." The Gordy mill property remained in family control until the second quarter of the twentieth century when Mary H. Gordy conveyed title to Dean W. Richardson in December 1924.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-629

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Gordy's Industry  
other

### 2. Location

street and number 7043 Bent Pine Road not for publication  
city, town Willards x vicinity  
county Wicomico

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Paul F. and Lula B. Richardson  
street and number 7054 Bent Pine Road telephone  
city, town Willards state MD zip code 21874

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1494 folio 556  
city, town Salisbury tax map 33 tax parcel 73 tax ID number 14-006702

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resource previously listed in the Inventory

## 7. Description

Inventory No. WI-629

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The property historically known as Gordy's Industry is located at 7043 Bent Pine Road south of Willards, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay frame dwelling faces west with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis. The house stands adjacent to an old mill pond and the sites of former grist and saw mills.

Dating around 1838, the two-story, five-bay, center hall frame dwelling rests on a minimal brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with vinyl siding. A layer of asphalt shingles covers the medium sloped gable roof. Attached to the back of the house is a single-story frame kitchen. To the north of the house is a small mill pond studded with cypress trees.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical five-bay façade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The windows are flanked by louvered vinyl shutters. A three-bay shed roofed porch shelters the front door. The shed roof is supported by replacement aluminum columns. The second floor is lighted by five two-over-two sash windows flanked by louvered vinyl shutters. Trimming the base of the roof is a boxed cornice covered with vinyl sheathing.

The north and south gable ends are defined by pairs of two-over-two sash windows flanked by louvered vinyl shutters. Small two-over-two sash windows light the attic. The edge of the roof is finished with a flush end, and the bargeboard is covered with vinyl. Piercing each gable end is an interior end brick stack. The chimney tops have inset paneled sides.

Attached to the back of the house is a single story kitchen wing, extended on the south side by a single story shed roofed addition. An interior end brick stack pierces the gable of the kitchen. Attached to the north side of the kitchen is a gable roofed side porch added within the past twenty years. The portion of the main block not covered by the kitchen wing is defined by two-over-two sash windows on the first and second floors. Each window opening is flanked by louvered vinyl shutters.

The interior was not seen, but the woodwork described fit stylish features common to the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-629

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The property known historically as Gordy's Industry is defined by a second quarter of the nineteenth-century two-story, five-bay dwelling that stands south of an old mill pond south of Willards. The center hall plan house was erected for Garretson Gordy (1803-1888) and his wife Margaret Gordy (1800-1874) around the time he patented Gordy's Industry, encompassing 455 acres, in 1837.<sup>1</sup> The five-bay frame dwelling retains portions of its late Federal woodwork. Also interesting are the portions of mill stones found on the property.

Garretson Gordy and his wife Margaret occupied this mill property for most of their adult lives, and in 1850 their large family included five children, and according to the census two other Gordy relatives that were born in Delaware resided there as well.<sup>2</sup> Ten years later, in 1860, the was listed with real estate and personal property worth a substantial \$16,000. Still living in the house were only two of the five children, carpenter Levi D. Gordy, aged 30 and his sister Maria, 15.<sup>3</sup> The house, along with a saw mill and grist mill, are located at this site on the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, published in 1877.<sup>4</sup> In 1881, probably sensing the end of his life, Garretson Gordy conveyed title of the house and mill property to his son Levi, "in consideration of a home on the said place and in the old residence during my lifetime, plus \$1,000."<sup>5</sup> The Gordy mill property remained in family control until the second quarter of the twentieth century when Mary H. Gordy conveyed title to Dean W. Richardson in December 1924.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ruth T. Dryden, *Land Records of Worcester County*, printed privately, 1987, p. 267.

<sup>2</sup> Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Population Schedule transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 58.

<sup>3</sup> Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Population Schedule, transcribed by John C. Barnes, p. 90.

<sup>4</sup> John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, p. 13.

<sup>5</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 5/7, 5 November 1881.

<sup>6</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, JCK 140/126, 24 December 1924.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-629

Name Gordy's Industry  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

---

Gordy's Industry  
7043 Bent Pine Road  
Willard vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Map 33, Parcel 73

1494/556

E. Dean W. Richardson, Personal Representative of  
Paul F. Richardson, late of Wicomico County

to

5/8/1996

E. Dean W. Richardson  
Don E. Richardson

AJS 878/244

Paul F. Richardson  
Lula B. Richardson

to

6/15/1977

Paul F. Richardson  
Lula B. Richardson

JWTS 299/397

Juanita M. Jones

to

5/7/1948

Dean W. Richardson  
Item 5: 135 acres "Gordy's Industry"

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. WI-629

Name Gordy's Industry  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

---

JWTS 299/392

Dean W. Richardson  
Mary R. Richardson

to

5/7/1948

Juanita M. Jones  
Item Five

JCK 140/126

Mary H. Gordy

to

12/24/1924

Dean W. Richardson

JCK 114/66

Joseph L. Bailey, trustee

to

10/10/1919

Mary H. Gordy  
Decree of Circuit Court, dated 6/8/1917, Mary Hester Gordy, et al.  
Plaintiffs, and Annie Hazel Dennis and others defendants, being  
No. 2466 in Chancery  
(and that which was devised by the said Edward G. Gordy to Frank D.  
Gordy by First Item of LWT, 11/19/1901, LJC 1/90

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-629

Name Gordy's Industry  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

---

JTT 32/148

Joseph L. Bailey, trustee

to

11/14/1901

Edward G. Gordy  
Decree of Circuit Court, 9/19/1900, County Commissioners of  
Wicomico County, complainants and Laura C. Gordy, et al. were  
respondents, No. 1291 Chancery, "Gordy's Industry," 196 acres  
being the farm where Levi D. Gordy resided at the time of his death...

SPT 5/7

Garretson Gordy

to

11/5/1881

Levi D. Gordy  
196 acres....in consideration of a home on the said place and in the  
old residence during my lifetime....\$1,000

Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Population Schedule transcribed by John C. Barnes, p. 90.

Garretson Gordy, 58, farmer, Value of Real Estate, \$10,000, Value of Personal Property, \$6,000  
Margaret Gordy, 60  
Maria Gordy, 15  
Levi D. Gordy, 30, carpenter

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-629

Name Gordy's Industry  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

---

Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Population Schedule transcribed by Ruth T. Dryden, p. 58.

Garretson Gordy, 47, farmer  
Margaret Gordy, 49  
Levi D. Gordy, 20  
Laura A. Gordy, 15  
Maria E. F. Gordy, 5  
Sally E. Gordy, 3  
Samuel Gordy, 1  
James H. Gordy, 9, born in Delaware  
Eliza Gordy, 16, born in Delaware

Land Records of Worcester County, Ruth T. Dryden, p. 267.

Patent for Gordy's Industry, 455  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres, to Garretson Gordy, 1837



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-629

John L. Graham, ed. The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p. 13.

Wicomico County Land Records, various volumes, Wicomico County Courthouse.

Worcester County Land Records, various volumes, Worcester County Courthouse.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre

Acreage of historical setting 196 acres

Quadrangle name Whaleville, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10/16/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

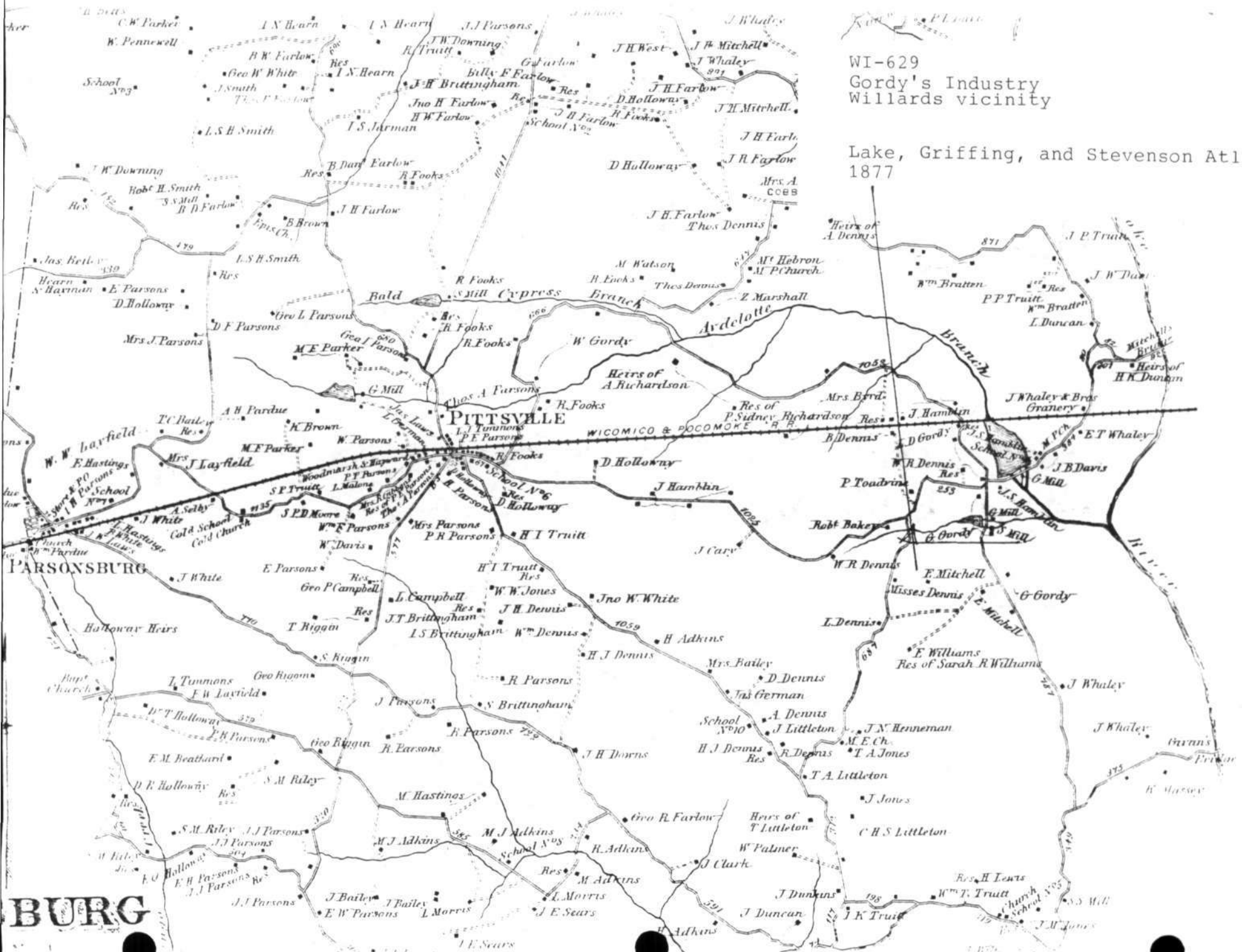
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

WI-629  
Gordy's Industry  
Willards vicinity

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877



942  
corrected location





WI-629

Gray's Industry  
Williams vic., Wilburton Co., MD

WEST ELEVATION

10/01, Paul Tourret, PHOTOGRAPHER

N.E. / MD HIST. TRUST

1 of 1

OWENS FARM  
Bent Pine Road, Willards

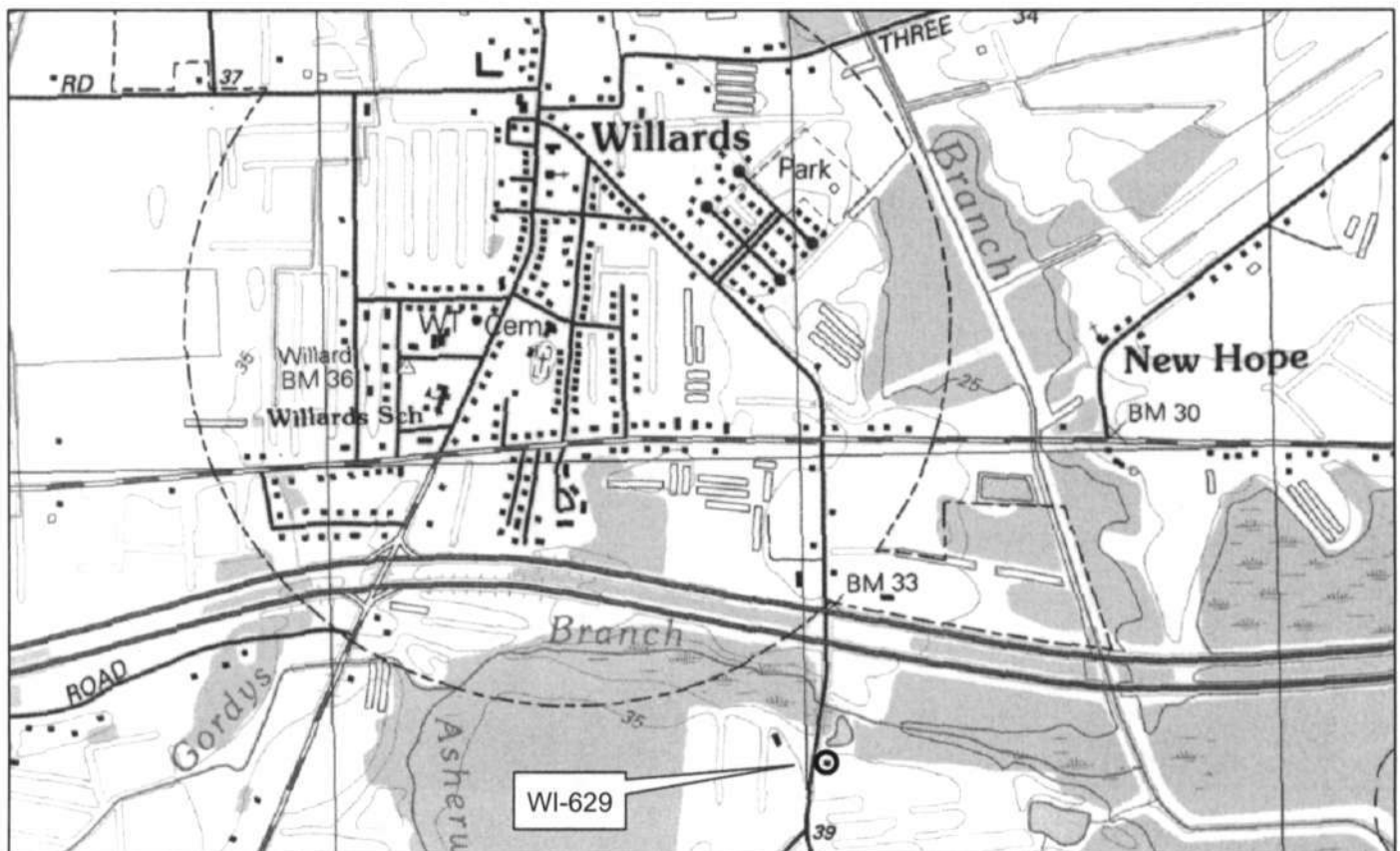
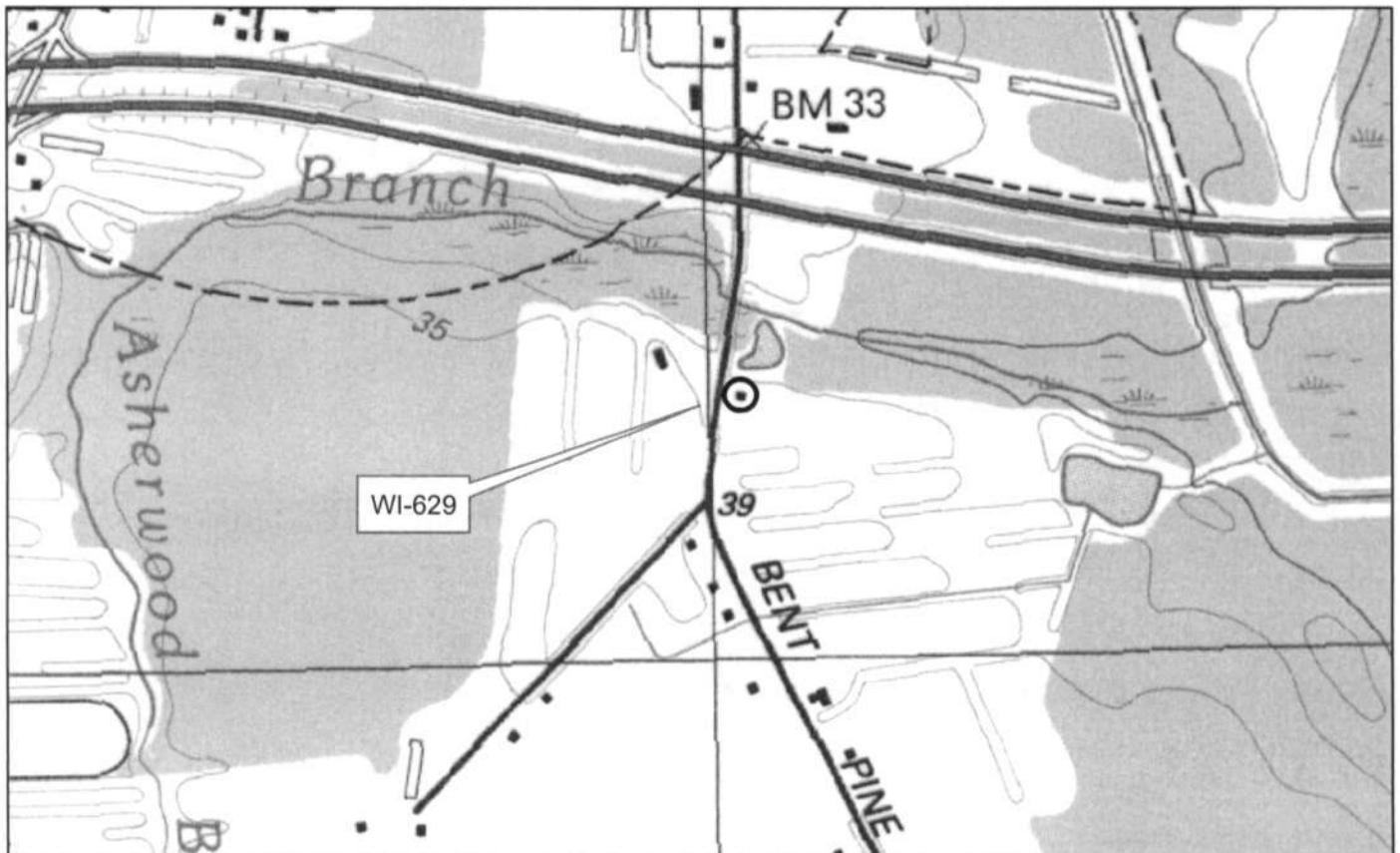
WI-629

~~WI-101~~

This frame house is five bays wide and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  stories high. On the first floor four windows flank the front door. The two closest to the door and the door are all enclosed within a screened-in shed-roof porch supported by four fluted columns across the front. The second floor contains five slightly smaller windows. The gable end of the building contains two windows on each of the first two floors as well as small ones in the attic. All windows are two-over-two. The two chimneys (with chimney caps) are interior in the gable ends. A dentiled cornice runs across the front of the house. The house appears to be sheathed with asbestos siding, and the roof is covered with modern asphalt shingles.

WI-629  
Gordy's Industry (Owens Farm)  
7043 Bent Pine Road  
Willards  
Whaleysville Quad

**Demolished**







WI-101 Owens Farm on Bent Pine Road  
WI-689



WI-629  
~~WI-101~~

Owens Farm on Bent line Road, Willards

Bent Line

PHOTOGRAPH BY  
O. V. WOOLLEN  
323 BREWINGTON DRIVE  
BALISBURY, MARYLAND